

701—126.2 (421,441) Appeal and certification.

126.2(1) *Appeal and jurisdiction.* The procedure for appeals and parameters for jurisdiction are as follows:

a. Jurisdiction is conferred upon the board by written notice of appeal given to the secretary. The written notice of appeal shall include a petition setting forth the basis of the appeal and the relief sought. The written notice of appeal shall be filed with the secretary within 20 calendar days after the date of adjournment of the local board of review or May 31, whichever is later. Appeals postmarked within this time period shall also be considered to have been timely filed.

b. Notice of appeal may be delivered in person, mailed by first-class mail, delivered to an established courier service for immediate delivery, or e-mailed to the board at paab@iowa.gov.

c. For an appeal filed by e-mail to be timely, it must be received by the board by 11:59 p.m. on the last day for filing as established within the time period set forth in paragraph 126.2(1) “*a.*”

126.2(2) *Form of appeal.* The notice of appeal shall include:

a. The appellant’s name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number;

b. The address of the property being appealed and its parcel number;

c. A copy of the letter of disposition by the local board of review;

d. A short and plain statement of the claim showing that the appellant is entitled to relief;

e. The relief sought; and

f. If the party is represented by an attorney or designated representative, the attorney or designated representative’s name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number.

126.2(3) *Scope of review.*

a. Grounds for appeal. The appellant may appeal the action of the board of review relating to protests of assessment, valuation, or the application of an equalization order. No new grounds in addition to those set out in the protest to the local board of review can be pleaded, but additional evidence to sustain those grounds may be introduced. The board shall determine anew all questions arising before the local board of review which relate to the liability of the property to assessment or the amount thereof.

b. Burden of proof. There shall be no presumption as to the correctness of the valuation of the assessment appealed from. The burden of proof is on the appellant; however, when the appellant offers competent evidence by at least two disinterested witnesses that the market value of the property is less than the market value determined by the assessor, the burden of proof thereafter shall be upon the party seeking to uphold the valuation.

c. The appeal is a contested case.

126.2(4) *Notice to local board of review.* The secretary shall mail a copy of the appellant’s written notice of appeal and petition to the local board of review whose decision is being appealed. Notice to all affected taxing districts shall be deemed to have been given when written notice is provided to the local board of review.

126.2(5) *Certification by local board of review.*

a. Initial certification.

(1) Within 21 days after notice of appeal is given, the local board of review shall certify to the board the original notice of assessment if any, the petition to the board of review, and a copy of the board of review’s letter of disposition.

(2) The local board of review shall also submit to the board in writing the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the attorney representing the local board of review before the board. The local board of review may request additional time to certify a copy of its record to the board by submitting a request in writing or by e-mail to the board at paab@iowa.gov.

b. Full record certification prior to hearing.

(1) At least 21 calendar days prior to the contested case hearing, the local board of review shall certify to the board the complete property record card for the subject property, the protest hearing minutes of the local board of review kept pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 21, and any information provided to or considered by the local board of review as part of the protest.

(2) The local board of review shall also send a copy of the full record to the opposing party.

126.2(6) *Docketing.* Appeals shall be assigned consecutive docket numbers. Records consisting of the case name and the corresponding docket number assigned to the case shall be maintained by the secretary. The records of each case shall also include each action and each act done, with the proper dates, as follows:

- a.* The title of the appeal including jurisdiction and parcel identification number;
- b.* Brief statement of the grounds for the appeal and the relief sought;
- c.* Postmarked date of the local board of review's letter of disposition;
- d.* The manner and date/time of service of notice of appeal;
- e.* Date of notice of hearing;
- f.* Date of hearing; and
- g.* The decision by the board, or other disposition of the case, and date thereof.

126.2(7) *Consolidation and severance.* The board or presiding officer may determine if consolidation or severance of issues or proceedings should be performed in order to efficiently resolve matters on appeal before the board.

a. Consolidation. The presiding officer may consolidate any or all matters at issue in two or more appeal proceedings where:

- (1) The matters at issue involve common parties or common questions of fact or law;
- (2) Consolidation would expedite and simplify consideration of the issues involved; and
- (3) Consolidation would not adversely affect the rights of any of the parties to those proceedings.

b. Severance. The presiding officer may, for good cause shown, order any appeal proceedings or portions of the proceedings severed.

126.2(8) *Appearances.* Any party may appear and be heard on its own behalf, or by its designated representative. A designated representative shall file a notice of appearance with the board for each case in which the representative appears for a party. Filing a motion or pleadings on behalf of a party shall be equivalent to filing a notice of appearance. A designated representative who is not an attorney shall also file a power of attorney. When acting as a designated representative on behalf of a party, the designated representative acknowledges that the representative has read and will abide by the board's rules.